

Message Text

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ORIGIN PRS-01

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

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FOR FUNSETH FROM S/PRS

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:SOPN (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT:TRAVELLING PRESS REPORTAGE, MORNING, JAN. 23

NO. 15

NEWSPAPERS:

1. WASH POST (MARDER): HEADLINE: "CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS SEEN BY U.S. ON SALT" AMBIGUOUS RESULT OF THE INTENSIVE BARGAINING IS PROGRESS BUT NO FULL AGREEMENT LEAVING "A QUESTION MARK HANGING" OVER NEGOTIATIONS. CENTRAL ISSUES REMAINING ARE STILL BACKFIRE AND CRUISE. ON THESE SOVIETS PUT FORTH "IDEAS OF CONSIDERABLE INTEREST" BUT "ADMINISTRATION REQUIRED FURTHER DISCUSSION OF OTHER POINTS."

THE AMERICAN SIDE SAID THE TALKS ACHIEVED "COMPLETE AGREEMENT" ON ANOTHER LONG-TERM ISSUE WHICH MARDER'S EVIDENCE POINTS TO AS THE HEAVY MISSILE PROBLEM.

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THE OFFICIAL WHO SPOKE TO REPORTERS WAS "COMPLETELY IMPRECISE" AND HAD "NOTHING CONCRETE" ON ANGOLA DISCUSSION. U.S. WANTED TO TRADE-OFF SALT FOR ANGOLA BUT IT WOULD BE "DIPLOMATICALLY IMPOSSIBLE" TO ACKNOWLEDGE LINK. PHASED

WITHDRAWAL OF FOREIGN FORCES MIGHT LIKEWISE BE QUIET.
KISSINGER'S SUGGESTION THAT SOUTH AFRICANS MUST LEAVE AS
FIRST STEP STILL STANDS.

2. WALL STREET JOURNAL (KEATLEY): THOUGH KISSINGER
LEAVES CONVINCED OF PROGRESS, "GAINS CLAIMED BY A U.S.
OFFICIAL ... FALL SHORT OF WHAT EARLIER SEEMED LIKELY."

ONE ISSUE RESOLVED IS APPARENTLY DEFINITION OF HEAVY
MISSILES WHILE, ACCORDING TO AN OFFICIAL, NO NEGOTIATIONS
WILL BE MADE ON CRUISE AND BACKFIRE SINCE THE RUSSIANS
HAVE NOT MOVED FAR ENOUGH THOUGH THEY ADVANCED SOME INTER-
ESTING PROPOSALS FOR CONSIDERATION IN WASHINGTON. HEAVY
MISSILE BUSINESS MAY HELP SAT, SFY CONGRESSIONAL CRITICS.

IT APPEARS KISSINGER MAY HAVE REACHED END OF HIS BARGAIN-
ING MANDATE; FORD DOES NOT WANT DISGRUNTLED PENTAGON
LEAKING TO CONGRESS AND PRESS.

3. NYTIMES (GWERTZMAN): FRONT PAGE CENTER COLUMN HEADLINE
SEES "MODEST GAIN." OFFICAL ASSERTS "CONSIDERABLE DEGREE
OF PROGRESS" BUT ACKNOWLEDGES KISSINGER FAILED TO ACHIEVE
MAXIMUM GOAL -- AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. BOTH SIDES
SAID PRIVATELY THEY ARE SATISFIED. NO DETAILS OF THE
DISTANCE STILL BETWEEN THEIR POSITIONS WERE AVAILABLE.
FORD AND NSC WILL NOW STUDY SITUATION.

GWERTZMAN BRIEFLY REVIEWS GROMYKO AND KISSINGER TOASTS
AT U.S. EMBASSY.

FOR THE REST GWERTZMAN REPORTS NO PROGRESS ON ANGOLA,
COMPLETE AGREEMENT ON HEAVY MISSILE, DISCUSSION OF MBFR,
CONTINUED EXCHANGES ON CRUISE AND BACKFIRE PROPOSALS.

4. NYDAILY NEWS (CARTER): STORY HAS MOVED UP TO PAGE TWO
AND IS HEADLINED: "KISSINGER LEAVING MOSCOW WITH NO DEAL
IN SALT TALKS." LEADS SAYS KISSINGER DID NOT GET HOPED
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FOR AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. NEXT PARAGRAPH BALANCES THIS
QUOTING OFFICIAL ON "VERY SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS." THE
OFFICIAL WOULD NOT SPECULATE ON WHAT WOULD HAVE BEEN
ACHIEVED IF NOT FOR ANGOLA. ONE UNSPECIFIED ISSUE WAS
RESOLVED BUT ADMINISTRATION NOW NEEDED TIME TO EVALUATE
CRUISE AND BACKFIRE QUESTIONS.

ON PAGE SIX CARTER TELLS HOW HIS FRIENDS SASHA AND LUCIA
"WILL TASTE MILK AND HONEY" NOW THAT THEY HAVE BEEN
GRANTED PERMISSION TO EMIGRATE TO ISRAEL.

JEWISH EMIGRATION HAS FALLEN IN WAKE OF JACKSON PRESSURE ON
SOVIETS BUT SOME SMALL EASING OF RESTRICTION IS NOTED IN

RECENT WEEKS.

CONTRARY TO EXPECTATION THAT FORD WANTED AGREEMENT NOW OR
PUT OFF UNTIL LATER, SALT - "ALREADY WELL BEHIND SCHEDULE -
WILL DRAG ON."

"MOSCOW DOES NOT SEEM IMPRESSED" BY KISSINGER WARNINGS
ABOUT ANGOLA - WHICH "KISSINGER SEEMS TO CONSIDER A LOST
CAUSE."

TV/RADIO:

1. STEVE BELL/BARRIE DUNSMORE, ABC TV - GOOD MORNING
AMERICA:

BELL: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER LEFT MOSCOW THIS
MORNING AFTER THREE DAYS OF TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADERS.
THE GOAL: TO GET THE STALLED STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION
TALKS MOVING AGAIN.

DUNSMORE, FROM MOSCOW: BOTH SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER
GROMYKO AND SECRETARY KISSINGER WERE ACCENTING THE
POSITIVE AS THEY WENT IN FOR A FINAL ROUND OF TALKS HERE
IN MOSCOW THIS MORNING. GROMYKO SAID THERE WAS MOVEMENT
ON SALT. 'YOU CALL IT PROGRESS,' HE SAID. KISSINGER
REPEATED SEVERAL TIMES THAT THERE WAS SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS
TOWARD THE STRATEGIC ARMS LIMITATION AGREEMENT, AND HE
ADDED THAT THE SOVIETS INTRODUCED SOME VERY INTERESTING
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NEW IDEAS.

WHAT SEEMS LIKELY IS THAT KISSINGER WENT AS FAR AS HE COULD
GO IN HIS INSTRUCTIONS, AND IT WILL REMAIN NOW FOR THE
ADMINISTRATION TO DECIDE WHETHER THE NEW RUSSIAN IDEA CAN
BE ACCEPTED. THIS MUCH TIGHTER REIN ON KISSINGER REFLECTS
CONCERN IN WASHINGTON THAT ANY NEW SALT AGREEMENT MUSTN'T
BE A POLITICAL LIABILITY FOR THE PRESIDENT.

2. LEW WOOD/RICHARD VALERIANI, NBC TV - TODAY SHOW:
WOOD: SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER FLEW TO BRUSSELS TODAY
AFTER THREE DAYS OF TALKS WITH SOVIET LEADER LEONID
BREZHNEV, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO AND OTHER SOVIET
LEADERS.

VALERIANI, FROM MOSCOW: KISSINGER AND BREZHNEV HELD A
FINAL FOUR HOUR MEETING AT THE KREMLIN, BUT THEY FAILED TO
COME TO TERMS ON THE TWO PRINCIPAL PROBLEMS STILL BLOCKING
THE NEW AGREEMENT: THE SOVIET BACKFIRE BOMBER, AND THE
AMERICAN CRUISE MISSILE. NO PICTURES OF THE MEETING WERE
ALLOWED. KISSINGER TOLD NEWSMEN THIS MORNING THAT SIG-
NIFICANT PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE IN THE ARMS CONTROL

NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE OF CONCLUDING

A NEW AGREEMENT. AND HE ADDED THAT HE WAS SATISFIED WITH THE RESULTS. BEFORE THE MEETING WITH BREZHNEV, KISSINGER WAS THE HOST AT A LUNCHEON FOR SOVIET FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO. THE TWO MEN CONTINUED THEIR NEGOTIATIONS THIS MORNING BEFORE THE SECRETARY LEFT FOR BRUSSELS. TODAY'S AGENDA INCLUDED ANGOLA AND THE MIDDLE EAST. KISSINGER LEFT NO DOUBT THAT HE WAS STILL NOT SATISFIED WITH THE RUSSIAN PROPOSAL ON ANGOLA.

3. RICHARD ROTH, CBS RADIO, WORLD NEWS ROUNDUP:

ROTH, FROM MOSCOW: KISSINGER'S SUMMARY TO REPORTERS HERE SAID SOME IMPORTANT ISSUES ON STRATEGIC ARMS HAVE BEEN RESOLVED, AND WILL BE IMPLEMENTED BY TECHNICAL EXPERTS AT THE TALKS IN GENEVA. PROGRESS WAS MADE ON OTHER ISSUES, HE SAID, INCLUDING THE INTRODUCTION OF WHAT HE CALLED 'SIGNIFICANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE NEW IDEAS' BY THE UNCLASSIFIED

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SOVIET SIDE. THOSE WILL BE TAKEN BACK TO WASHINGTON FOR STUDY. BUT THERE IS NO BREAKTHROUGH, NO AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE. AND THE SECRETARY'S SOVIET COUNTERPART, FOREIGN MINISTER ANDREI GROMYKO, WAS WILLING TO MAKE ONLY THE VAGUEST PREDICTION ABOUT A SUMMIT IN WASHINGTON. 'I DO NOT KNOW,' HE SAID, 'BUT CERTAINLY THE SUMMIT WILL TAKE PLACE IF THE AGREEMENT IS SIGNED AND WHEN IT IS SIGNED.' ASKED IF A SUMMIT IS STILL POSSIBLE BEFORE THE AMERICAN ELECTIONS THIS FALL, GROMYKO SAID, 'IT IS TOO RISKY TO TALK ABOUT INTERNAL MATTERS IN THE UNITED STATES.'

4. BARRIE DUNSMORE, AMERICAN INFORMATION RADIO, ABC NEWS:

KISSINGER: GOOD PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE ON VERY SIGNIFICANT PROBLEMS, AND SOME INTERESTING NEW SOVIET IDEAS HAVE BEEN INTRODUCED.

DUNSMORE: THE NEW ELEMENTS APPEAR ALSO RELATIVELY POSITIVE. THE RUSSIAN PROPOSALS HAVE BEEN CATEGORIZED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE AS VERY INTERESTING, AND IN FACT THERE HAS BEEN SOME PROGRESS IN ONE PARTICULAR AREA OF SALT, AND THAT'S IN THE GENERAL AREA OF DEFINITION OF HEAVY MISSILES. THE HANGUP STILL LIES, HOWEVER, IN THE QUESTION OF DEPLOYING AND COUNTING FOR THOSE TWO WEAPONS SYSTEMS, THE RUSSIAN BACKFIRE BOMBER AND THE U.S. CRUISE MISSILE. SOME PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN THESE AREAS TOO ...

5. BERNARD KALB, CBS RADIO:

REPORTERS' QUESTIONS INCLUDED THE WORD 'FAILURE.' HAD THE

TALKS FAILED, OR WAS THERE CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS? BOTH

KISSINGER AND GROMYKO REJECTED 'FAILURE,' BOTH INSISTING THAT THE TALKS HAD MADE GOOD PROGRESS TOWARD A SALT AGREEMENT. THE NEGOTIATIONS CONCLUDED LAST NIGHT AFTER SOME 10 HOURS OF INTENSE DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN KISSINGER AND SOVIET LEADER BREZHNEV, U.S. OFFICIALS LATER DISCLOSING THAT THERE HAD BEEN WHAT HE CALLED 'A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE OF PROGRESS.' BUT HE ALSO MADE CLEAR THAT THE TWO SIDES HAD BEEN UNABLE TO ACHIEVE A COMPLETE UNCLASSIFIED

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BREAKTHROUGH ON THE DEADLOCK. THAT HAD BEEN WIDELY EXPECTED, ALTHOUGH KISSINGER HIMSELF HAD EARLIER MADE CLEAR THAT AN AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE WAS NOT THE ONLY POSSIBLE OUTCOME. THERE COULD ALSO BE PROGRESS, THERE COULD EVEN BE FAILURE.

BUT TODAY, KISSINGER AND GROMYKO HIT THE SAME THEME. GROMYKO TELLING REPORTERS THAT THERE WAS 'FORWARD MOVEMENT' ON SEVERAL MATTERS, KISSINGER SAYING 'SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS' HAS BEEN MADE TOWARD A SALT AGREEMENT, THAT HE WAS SATISFIED.

WIRES:

1. REUTER (NELSON): UNEXPECTED PROPOSAL TO CUT CEILING ON STRATEGIC NUCLEAR FORCES TO ABOUT 2150 VEHICLES WAS UNDERSTOOD TO BE A FACE-SAVING WAY OF EXEMPTING BACKFIRE FROM LIMIT. LIMIT WILL BE REDUCED BY ESTIMATED NUMBER OF BACKFIRES TO GO INTO SERVICE.

KISSINGER SAID U.S. WILL REPLY TO SOVIETS IN A FEW WEEKS AND THEN CONTINUE NEGOTIATIONS.

2. UPI (NO BYLINE): U.S. AND SOVIETS MAY CONSIDER 10 PERCENT CUT IN STRATEGIC DELIVERY ARSENALS IN AN UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT THAT U.S. OFFICIAL CALLED "BIGGEST SINGLE PROGRESS OF ANY U.S.-SOVIET NEGOTIATING SESSION IN MOSCOW." UNDER THE NEW PROPOSAL PRESUMABLY SOVIETS WOULD HAVE TO DROP 400 VEHICLES FROM CURRENT 2,600 WHILE U.S. COULD STAY AT ABOUT 2,100.

KISSINGER SAID BREZHNEV HAD GIVEN HIM "CONSTRUCTIVE" AND "SIGNIFICANT" NEW IDEAS BUT REPORTED PROGRESS ON SALT IS TEMPERED BY SOVIET REFUSAL TO PRESSURE CUBA ON ANGOLA. AFTER STUDY IN WASHINGTON KISSINGER WILL CONSULT THROUGH DOBRYNIN ON FUTURE OF SALT. KISSINGER MAY ALSO GO TO MOSCOW AGAIN.

3. AP (SCHWEID): THOUGH U.S. OFFICIALS SAY A LOT REMAINS TO BE DONE "SIGNIFICANT AND CONSTRUCTIVE NEW IDEAS" PUT

FORWARD BY SOVIETS TO REDUCE STRATEGIC DELIVERY VEHICLES
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10 PERCENT AND COMPROMISE ON BACKFIRE AND CRUISE, MAY MEAN
BREZHNEV COULD COME TO SIGN A NEW AGREEMENT AS EARLY AS MAY.

HEAVY MISSILE AND CRUISE ISSUES APPEAR SOLVED. GROMYKO
SAYS THERE WAS "MOVEMENT FORWARD ON SEVERAL MATTERS."

KISSINGER EVIDENTLY WAS MUCH LESS SUCCESSFUL ... ON
ANGOLA."

LATE ITEM:

LA TIMES (JOHNSTON): THOUGH SALT IS NO LONGER DEADLOCKED
OR IN A STATE OF STAGNATION AND SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IS
CLAIMED BY U.S. OFFICIALS, KISSINGER WILL RETURN WITHOUT
AGREEMENT IN PRINCIPLE FOR MORE TALKS WITHIN ADMINISTRATION.
ONE MAJOR ISSUE IS SOLVED AND THERE WAS PROGRESS ON BUT NO
RESOLUTION OF BACKFIRE AND CRUISE. WHETHER SETTLEMENT
OF HEAVY MISSILE QUESTION WOULD LIMIT DEPLOYMENT OF SOVIET
SS-19S WAS UNKNOWN.

THERE IS NO HINT THAT KISSINGER MADE ANY PROGRESS ON
ANGOLA. AFTER EVIDENTLY REFUSING TO DISCUSS ANGOLA AT ANY
LENGTH, BREZHNEV HAS ,DEPUTIZED GROMYKO TO HEAR KISSINGER
OUT TODAY." MBFR AND THE ME ARE ALSO ON AGENDA.

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